



**First Parish Church, Congregational**  
**On the Village Green**

**Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts**

Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt, Interim Pastor  
Donald R. Dunn, Director of Music-Organist  
Jessica Skidmore, Christian Ministry Coordinator  
Tori Potter, Sexton  
Nancy Klebart, Office Manager

978-526-7661

[office.fpchurch@verizon.net](mailto:office.fpchurch@verizon.net)

[www.firstparishchurch.org](http://www.firstparishchurch.org)

**Maundy Thursday, March 29, 2018**  
The Office of Tenebrae with Holy Communion

Many of the events surrounding the last days of Christ are shrouded in darkness. In the fourth century a solemn observance of the Lord's supper, known as "Tenebrae" (meaning "darkness" or "shadows") was celebrated. The Office of Tenebrae involves a symbolic extinguishing of lights, signifying the gathering forces of evil and the approach of Jesus' death. When all fall away, only Jesus, represented by the lone lit candle, remains faithful.

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** *"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"*  
*Tune by Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)*  
*Setting by Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (from *Bread for the Journey*)      Jessica Skidmore

Leader: You who call upon the name of Christ, we are gathered to recall the story of the night in which Jesus Christ was betrayed. Are you prepared to come to the table of Jesus Christ, whose life was poured out for you?

**People: By the grace of God, we are.**

Leader: Are you able to watch with Jesus at prayer in the garden, indeed, to struggle yourselves to be in unity with God's will?

**People: By the grace of God, we are.**

Leader: Will you follow Jesus even into the night of betrayal?

**People: By the grace of God, we will.**

Leader: Then let us praise God, even in this hour of darkness!

**All: God of all grace and steadfast love, greatly is your name to be praised in all the earth!**

**\*HYMN:** *"Abide With Me"*      PH #209 blue

**WELCOME AND INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Pastor: Welcome to this service. We will be reenacting tonight the events of Jesus' last night with the disciples. We begin by reenacting the meal Jesus shared with them on that night. As we prepare to come to Christ's table, let us come recognizing who we are.

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (from *Bread for the Journey*)

**O Christ, in your presence we discover who we are. You wash our feet, and we learn how reluctant we are to serve one another. Even as you prepare to give yourself for the sake of the world, we are still seeking promotions and possessions. Our love scarcely suffices to fulfill the requirements of good manners, and yet you invite us to eat with you at your table. Forgive us, and help us to value your presence more dearly, that we may find this meal to be a celebration of joy.**

**Amen.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** (adapted from *Bread for the Journey*)

Pastor: Hear the good news: God is more willing to forgive our sins than we are to acknowledge them. The God of peace be with you all, granting you forgiveness in Christ’s name, and keeping you in unity with Christ’s people everywhere. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE:** John 13:1-17

Ian Alsop and Jen Powers

**ANTHEM:** “*Ave Verum Corpus*” Text: 14<sup>th</sup> century  
Music: Colin Mawby (b.1936)

*Ave verum corpus, natum  
Ex Maria virgine,  
Vere passum, immolatum  
In cruce pro homine.*

Hail, true body, born  
of the virgin Mary,  
truly killed, dying  
on the cross for man.

*Cuius latus perforatum  
Vero fluxit sanguine:  
Esto nobis praegustatum,  
Mortis in examine.  
O Clemens, o pie, dulcis,  
Lesu, Fili Mariae.*

From whose pierced flank  
flowed the true blood;  
behold him now, tested for us,  
through the trial of death.  
O clement, O holy,  
O sweet Jesus, Son of Mary.

**THE MEDITATION:** “*Wash Each Other’s Feet? What?!*”

**\*HYMN:** “*Break Thou the Bread of Life*”

*PH #254 blue*

**THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*(The bread in the middle of the plates is gluten free, the cup is non-alcoholic grape juice.)*

**INVITATION**

Pastor: May all who feel moved by the love of Jesus Christ feel free to participate in this meal, remembering his story.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS**

**UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*(from Bread for the Journey)*

Almighty God, Ruler of the universe, we thank you for your mighty acts of deliverance, when you enable us to cross over from despair to hope, from brokenness to wholeness, from death to life. We thank you for the deep love of Jesus, which moved him to risk himself for the redemption of humanity; and for the grace we experience in receiving these symbols of the life he gave. Through lives given over in commitment to you, make us worthy of this great love. Amen.

**THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LIGHTS**

Shadow of the Betrayer  
Shadow of the Desertion  
Agony of the Soul

Matthew 26:20-25  
Matthew 26:31-35  
Mark 14:32-35

Sarah Campbell  
Marianne Round  
Lynda Griffiths

**CHORAL RESPONSE:** “*Go To Dark Gethsemane*”

The Hour is Come	John 17:1-5	Ann Heslop
Unshared Vigil	Mark 14:37-42	Jake Edwards
Arrest at the Gate	Mark 14:43-50	Tyler Erdmann

**CHORAL RESPONSE:** “*Tis Midnight, and on Olive’s Brow*”

Accusation and Trial	Mark 14:57-64	Alden Irose
The Rooster Crows	Luke 22:54-62	Charlotte Pick
Shadow of the Cross	Mark 15:16-20	Max Warnock

**CHORAL RESPONSE:** “*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*”

**\*HYMN:** “*On a Hill Far Away*” (*The Old Rugged Cross*)  
NCH #195 (v. 1-3)

**DARKNESS** (except for the lone lit candle representing Jesus Christ)

**PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** “*Adoramus te, Christe*” (*Christ, we do all adore thee*)  
*from The Seven Last Words of Christ*  
*Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)*

**ORGAN POSTLUDE:** *Prelude in E minor*  
*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

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The members of this year’s confirmation class (Ian Alsop, Jake Edwards Tyler Erdmann, Alden Irose, Sam Peterson, Charlotte Pick, and Max Warnock) and their teachers (Jen Powers and Jessica Skidmore, Christian Ministry Coordinator) are joining the deacons as readers and greeters tonight.

First Parish Church Congregational welcomes you  
to participate in these upcoming events;

**Good Friday Ecumenical Service March 30, 12 Noon,**  
Cornerstone Church 20 School St. Manchester

**Lenten Vespers March 31, 5:30 PM,** Church

**Easter Sunrise Ecumenical Service April 1, 6:23 AM,**  
Singing Beach and following a Community Breakfast  
at the Amaral Bailey Legion Post 113

**Easter Worship April 1, 10 AM,** Church  
(Easter Egg hunt follows worship)